Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-01 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 /061 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, OTRA

SUBJECT: EUROGROUP WORKING LEVEL VISIT TO WASHINGTON POSTPONED

1. EUROGROUP TOOK INITIATIVE IN EARLY DECEMBER TO SET UP VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN EARLY FEBRUARY FOR SEVERAL WORKING LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES. EUROGROUP'S WASHINGTON COORDINATING OFFICER, BELGIAN EMBASSY ATTACHE JEAN MARIE NOIRFALISSE, HAS NOW INFORMED US THAT VISIT HAS BEEN POSTPONED FOR THREE TO SIX MONTHS. HE TOOK PAINS TO ASSURE US POSTPONEMENT HAS BEEN OCCASIONED ONLY FOR QTE SECONDARY UNQTE CONFIDENTIAL

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REASONS. PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO SOUND OUT NEW ADMINISTRATION VIEWS TOWARD EUROGROUP, AND TO GET EUROGROUP VIEWS ACROSS TO NEW ADMINISTRATION.

2. THIS VISIT WOULD HAVE BEEN FOLLOW-ON TO SIMILAR VISIT EARLY LAST YEAR BY SEVERAL WORKING LEVEL EUROGROUP REPRESENTATIVES. OUR THOUGHT IS THAT THIS YEAR'S

RESCHEDULED VISIT MIGHT USEFULLY TAKE PLACE AFTER NATO SPRING MINISTERIAL -- BUT WE DO NOT INTEND TO TAKE INITIATIVE TO RESCHEDULE.

3. EUROGROUP REPRESENTATIVES FOR EARLY FEBRUARY VISIT WERE TO HAVE BEEN

PIERRE CHAMPENOIS, BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, FERDINANDO SALLEO, CHIEF OF ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY'S NATO OFFICE, AND LT. GEN WOLF (DENMARK), FORMER COMMANDANT OF THE NATO DEFENSE COLLEGE. (LAST YEAR'S REPRESENTATIVES WERE CRISPIN TICKELL, UK FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, PETRUS BUWALDA, DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND GEN WOLF.) FEBRUARY VISIT WAS ALSO TO INCLUDE ATLANTA, LOS ANGELES, DETROIT AND PITTSBURGH. IN WASHINGTON, EUROGROUP REPRESENTATIVES WERE TO MEET WITH SELECTED CONGRESSMEN OR CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS, AS WELL AS WITH STATE AND DEFENSE OFFICIALS.

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Message Attributes

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Subject: EUROGROUP WORKING LEVEL VISIT TO WASHINGTON POSTPONED

TAGS: OTRA, NATO

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